



MSDI LAND USE/LAND COVER & CADASTRAL FRAMEWORK

STATE-WIDE ASSESSMENT OF FOREST RESOURCES

MLIA funding request for FY2010

**Submitted by:
Montana Department of Natural Resources &
Conservation, Forestry Division, Forestry
Assistance Bureau**

February 12, 2009

5. APPLICATION FOR GRANT FUNDING

Applicant Information

1. Primary Applicant (Required):

Name of principle individual: ROBERT HARRINGTON
Name of agency/entity: STATE OF MONTANA - DNRC
Street: 2705 SPURGIN RD
City: MISSOULA
County: MISSOULA
State: MONTANA
Zip Code: 59804
Contact email address: RHARRINGTON@MT.GOV
Contact fax address: 406.542.4203
Contact phone: 406.542.4301

Organizational Unit (if applicable)

Department: DNRC
Division: FORESTRY

2. Other Project Participants or Partners - please list all:

Name of contact: Dan Rogers will be the primary contact. Will also include:
Name of Agency: USDA-Forest Service & NRCS, USDI-BLM, Montana Division of Trust Lands, Montana FWP & DEQ, MSU Extension, Montana Tribal Representation, Private Forest Ownership representation(MT Tree Farm, MT Forest Owners Assoc., The Nature Conservancy, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, MT Logging Association, MT Wood Product Assoc.)

Members of the State-wide Assessment Working Group (SAWG) will participate exclusively on the scoping and results portion of the project. They will not supply any monetary match and therefore are not included in the partner budget. A group letter of support is forthcoming.

Street:
City:
County:
State:
Zip Code
Contact email address
Contact phone:

3. Date Submitted (Required): 13 FEBRUARY 2009
by State:

4. Date Received

Project Narrative

Limited to 5 pages (Times Roman 12 Font)

1. Project Goals, Objectives and Risks –

United States Congress and the Federal Office of Management and Business has put steady pressure on the USDA Forest Service - State & Private Forestry (S&PF) to justify and defend its “pass-through,” state assistance programs. In 2006, S&PF began a process of “**Redesigning**” its state pass-through framework to provide more strategic delivery of program funds. In other words, in an environment of diminishing funds, stakeholders need to become more strategic in “where” funds are being spent as well as enhancing the overall “cumulative” benefits. In years past, program outreach was a scattered approach recruiting those most interested and involved less strategy towards directing outreach.

In terms of redesign for Montana, the first generation involved a spatial analysis project (SAP) which was a comprehensive, 30-meter grid analysis of ALL private, non-industrial forest lands. SAP was used to prioritize “Family Forest” lands and to facilitate the strategic deployment of the Forest Stewardship program funds for maximum, strategic, benefit/return. This was a critical step in redefining private, forested land cover including mapping trends in forest insects and disease, forest productivity, and fragmentation.

With the adoption of the 2008 Federal Farm Bill, the redesign concept has come full circle in terms of using remote sensing to define strategy and prioritization of lands. To ensure that federal and state resources are being focused on critical landscape areas with the greatest opportunity to address shared management priorities and achieve measurable outcomes, each state will work **collaboratively with key partners and stakeholders** to develop a Statewide Forest Resource Assessment. The analysis will identify, describe, and spatially define ALL forest landscape areas where forestry program outreach and activity will be emphasized and coordinated. This is an analysis of ALL lands, across ALL ownerships, to provide a prioritization for all Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act programs. This analysis will impact delivery of 5 programs including State Fire Assistance, Forest Stewardship, Forest Health Management, Urban and Community Forestry, and the Forest Legacy Program.

Specifically, the regional partnership-based analysis will integrate several data sets into the analysis model. The analysis results will provide critical insight into enhancing the cadastral and land use/cover frameworks. Analysis results cover consistent sets of attributes, across all jurisdictions, and are made available in a standardized format.

While this project meets the Governor’s 2008 MLIA Challenge, it also is intended to meet Goal 1, objective 1.1 and Goal 2, objective 2.1 of the 2010 Land Information Plan. Funding this application will insure the State-wide Forest Resource Assessment integrates and maintains consistent data and is commonly available. It also will supply a much-needed series of multi-jurisdictional data to be used in planning and strategizing future collaborative opportunities.

2. Technical Approach –

a. Scope of Work

The Forestry Assistance Bureau of the DNRC Forestry Division will be directly responsible for carrying out this project. The project is broken into two phases. In Phase I, division staff will be facilitating the stakeholder collaboration to identify and weight the needed data sets for the analysis. We will secure and/or develop data to address 8 themes: Development Risk, Fragmentation, Wildfire Risk, Forest Health Risk, Fish and Wildlife Habitat, Water Quality and Supply, Economic Potential and Green Infrastructure. It is our feeling that statewide data exists to support all 8 data themes.

Phase II will include developing the model, and performing the analysis. Once scoping is complete, DNRC will contract out the data collection and clean up, model building and final analysis of data.

All efforts will be made that all data layers produced are consistent with MSDI Framework Layers. Metadata will be produced for all deliverables that will be consistent with the Montana GIS portal metadata standard. The data will be registered with the Montana GIS portal. The Forestry Assistance Bureau will provide oversight and clarification for all parts of this process.

b. Deliverables –

- Compilation of new data to address data themes
- 30 meter grid analysis of all Montana forest resources
- New Forested Land cover definition including green infrastructure for urban, suburban and exurban areas.

c. Acceptance Criteria –

DNRC Forestry Assistance Bureau will be responsible for all quality control and quality assurances for the project. The State-wide Assessment Work Group(SAWG) will act as the barometer for applicability and performance. As this is a collaborative process, SAWG will play an integral part in the project layout and results acceptance. The State Forester will provide final acceptance for the State and will make project recommendation to the USDA Director of Cooperative Forestry. US Secretary of Agriculture will provide final approval. Following review by FAB, ITSD will review the data to ensure that it meets the criteria for inclusion in the Cadastral and Land use/cover framework layer. Once this review is complete, the acceptance of this dataset for inclusion into the Cadastral and Land use/cover framework layer will indicate that the primary project goals have been met and focus will shift towards ongoing maintenance of the data set.

d. Timeline of project –

<u>Date</u>	<u>Deliverables</u>
15 MAY 2009	Notification from Dept. of Administration of application success.

1 JULY 2009	RFP written and approved, and noticed to the public.
15 JULY 2009	RFPs due.
1 AUGUST 2009	RFPs are scored.
15 AUGUST 2009	Award RFP.
19 AUGUST 2009	Project begins.
SEPT-OCT 2009	Data collection, manipulation and analysis
30 OCT 2009	Interim Project Report to the Department of Administration.
20 NOV 2009	Final results reviewed, accepted and delivered to DNRC.
1 JANUARY 2010	Final Project Report to the Department of Administration.

e. Staff roles and responsibilities (grantee) -

Dan Rogers, MT DNRC will be the overall Agency Project Manager responsible for facilitating the entire project including contract development, fiscal tracking and contract closure. Elizabeth Hertz, MT DNRC and Rick Bush, MT DNRC will assist with project layout and management as needed. All three have extensive experience with data sets, collaborative process, contract management and information services.

3. Geography Affected (Required) – This project will provide a 30 meter grid analysis of ALL lands in Montana, regardless of ownership. The subsequent forest resource data set will cover over 25 million acres of Montana’s forested lands and will provide the vehicle for all partners listed in #2 to strategize and prioritize planning and management across all ownership boundaries.

4a. Detailed Budget (Required) –

FY 2010

Category	Applicant Share (including in-kind)	MLIA Share	Other Share	Total
a. Personnel	\$7,500			\$7,500
b. Fringe Benefits	\$2,500			\$2,500
c. Travel				\$0
d. Equipment				\$0
e. Supplies	\$3,000			\$3,000
f. Contractual	\$5,000	\$18,000		\$23,000
g. Other				\$0
				\$0
g. Totals	\$18,000	\$18,000	\$0	\$36,000

4b. Provide a separate budget summary for each participant (including subcontracts)

N/A

5. Statements of support must be included from any party listed as a partner. Other statements of support will not be evaluated and should not be submitted (not counted toward 5 page limit)

6. Renewable Grant Accountability Report:

If you received a 2009 MLIA Grant you must file a report documenting the progress you have made toward meeting the requirements of that grant (not counted toward the 5 page limit).

N/A

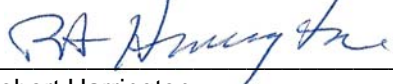
7. Authorized Signature

Authorizing Statement

I hereby certify that the information and all statements in this application are true, complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge and that the project or activity complies with all applicable state, local and federal laws and regulations.

I further certify that this project will comply with applicable statutory and regulatory standards.

I further certify that I am (we are) authorized to enter into a binding agreement with the Montana Department of Administration to obtain a grant if this application receives approval.



Robert Harrington

Date: 13 February 2009

State Forester – Montana DNRC

Signature and Title of Authorized Representative(s) of Public Entity Applicant